NOT IN WING
(W T 2839)
1489. f. 20.

A TRUE

NARRATIVE

OF THE

TRYAL

OF

Titus Oats

FOR

PERJURY

AT THE

Kings-Bench-Barr

AT

VVESTMINSTER

On *Friday* the 8*th*. of *May*, 1685.

PErjury is one of the moſt deteſtable Crimes, eſpecially when its complicated with Murther; for it violates at once all Laws Humane and Divine, unhinging the whole Society of the World. This day being the Eighth Day of this preſent Month of *May*, 1685. was Convicted of this moſt abominable Crime, *Titus Oats* formerly known by the Name of the *Salamanca* Doctor, one who by his Perjury and Lyes inflamed and liked to have Overthrown Three moſt flouriſhing Kingdoms: The manner thus.

About Nine of the Clock in the Forenoon the Court Sate, where was the Right Honourable Sir *George Jefferies*, Knt. and Bar. Lord Chief Juſtice of *England*, Judge *Withins*, Judge *Holloway*, &c. Being on the Bench and the Jury called, *Oats* excepted againſt ſome of them, for being of the Grand Jury when the Indictment was found and it was admitted for a juſt Bar; then the Indictment was read in *Latin* and *Engliſh* the ſubſtance of which was, that whereas *Titus Oats* had Sworn and cauſed to be put to Death ſeveral Perſons, namely the Five *Jeſuits*, *Pickering*, *Groves* and *Ireland*, &c.

He

He Swore that he was at a Conſult at the *White-Horſe-Tavern* in the *Strand*, where he being preſent, and carrying the Papers in which the Death of King *Charles* the Second of Bleſſed Memory, from one Chamber to another, where he ſaid they all unanimouſly Signed the Kings Death on the 24th. of *April Anno Dom.* 1678. The Falſities of which was proved by theſe following Evidence, *&c.* were not here named, being all perſons of Quality and Eſtates who hapned to be Students at *St Omers* at that time that *Oates* was there. Firſt, Mr. *Hillſley* depoſed that he came from *St Omers* the very day that Mr. *Oates* pretended that the Conſult was in the *Strand*, and that he left Mr. *Oates* there; and whereas *Oates* had formerly Sworn that he came over with *Hillſly*: *Hillſly* Swore he did not ſee him all the way: Then Mr. *Barnaby* Swore that he met Mr. *Hillſly* by the way and he ſaw not *Oates* with him, and that going on to *St. Omers*, and Arriving there within two days after he had met Mr. *Hillſly* in Kent, he found Mr. *Oates* at St. *Omers*, ſo that he poſſibly could not be here in *London*, all the reſt of the Witneſſes for the King, Swore that *Oates* coming to St *Omers* about *December* 1677. never was to their knowledge out of the Seminory till the Mid-Summer 1678, But one Night which was at *Watton*, a place about two Leagues from St *Omers*, and they ſaw him every day either at Meat or Play, and that he was ſo remarkable for his odd Carriage, that they took particular notice of him, eſpecially he ſitting at a particular Table, and not among the Boys by reaſon of his Age. This was Atteſted by above 20 Witneſſes, *viz.* Lord *Gerrard Bromely*, — *Gerrard* Eſq; — *Haggerſton*, Eſq; — *VVright* Eſq; — *Price*, Eſq; Mr. *Arundel*, — *Turbervil* Eſq; — *Thornton* Eſq; — *Pool* Eſq; *Mr. Dorrel* and one *Mr. Morgan*, one that was then a Papiſt, but is now a Church of *England* Miniſter, *&c.*

Mr. *Oates*'s Queſtions put to them, was, what Religion they were of, and how long they were there, and what they did there; and offered to ask ſome things, which was, as my *Lord Chief Juſtice* told him, not proper nor fit for them to anſwer, becauſe of Penal Statutes againſt *Papiſts*: He behaved himſelf with his wonted Confidence, and ſeemed to have more Braſs in his Face than ever; but my *Lord Chief Juſtice* kept him within his Bounds, and gave him all the fair play immaginable, before he began his particular Defence; he made a long canting Harangue how he had been believed by Parliaments, and how ſeveral Judges had ſpoke formerly of him, and particularly my *Lord Chief Juſtice*; all which being not admitted as Evidence, he was directed by the Court, to prove his being here in *April* the 24*th.* 78. he produced one *Mrs. Cicely Majo*; who Swore that about that time ſhe ſaw him in a Diſguiſe at Sir *Richard Barkers* Houſe: He having on a Grey Hat, no Hair, a pitiful Gray Sute. Sir *Robert*'s Coach-man, Swore he ſaw him there in a Black Hat, a long Black Perriwig and a Cinnamon Sute; beſides they diſagreed in ſeveral things, and ſo they being but otherwiſe deſpicable People, their Evidence was looked upon as nothing worth; and they contradicted *Oates*'s own Teſtimony, for he Swore he was back at St. *Omers* in the beginning of *May*, and my *Lord Chief Juſtice* asked *Oates* where he Lodged when he pretended to be here in *April* and the beginning of *May*, that he might produce the People of the Houſe to be Evidence for his being here; but he ſhuffled and would Aſſign none, which was look'd on by all as a clear Conviction. After this, *Mr. Oates* to make a Noiſe cauſed to be called a many great Names to ſhew what Authority his Evidence once had

viz.

viz. my Lord *Devonſhire*, my Lord *Clay*, who ſaid it was ſo long ſince, that they could give ſmall Account of it; my Lord *Huntingdon* ſaid it is true, he once believed ſomething which he Swore, but he did now on his Conſcience believe him to be an errant Rogue, and a ſpiller of Innocent blood.

My Lord *Barron Montague* being called by *Oates*, he gave him a ſlender Character, and that formerly he did not hear him.

Mr, *Williams*, Speaker of the *Houſe of Commons*, Sir *George Treby* were called, but ſaid little or nothing.

After *Mr Oates* had done with his Evidence, *Mr. Attorney General* brought in more Evidence for the King, ſome to prove others to Corroborate. The Witneſſes to prove where firſt Sir *George Wakeman*, who was formerly quitted at the *Old-Bayly*: After Sir. *George* was ſworn, he was asked by the Court with what Mr. *Oates* had formerly Sworn againſt him, *viz.* of taking 500 *l.* to poyſon the King; and he anſwered by Virtue of the Oath he had taken, it was all falſe. My Lord *Caſtlemain* atteſted the ſame as to the Treaſon *Oates* had formerly Charged him with: then one Mr. *Smith*, formerly Schoolmaſter in *Iſlington* was produced, and it was proved that he confeſſed himſelf Perjured in favor of *Oates*'s Teſtimony in the Tryal of the Five *Jeſuits* being induced by Fear and Gain.

The ſame was proved upon one Mr. *Clay* who was induced by threats and promiſes of *Oates* and Sir *William Waller*, this was proved by one Mr. *Davenport* a Keeper of the Goal who heard him threaten *Clay* with Death, unleſs he would ſecond his Evidence, and he being an Old Weak man, was drawn in: After the Evidence on both ſides had made an end, *My Lord Cheif Juſtice* told the Priſoner he had free Liberty to make what Exceptions he pleaſed, Who then began a long and *Malapert* Harangue the chief drift of which was to prove that the Papiſts ought not to be Credited becauſe they were Papiſts, and for this produced ſome Records and Statutes.

And to this he was anſwered by my *Lord Chief Juſtice*, that by the ſame Reaſon all the Diſſenters from the Church of *England* ought to be excepted.

And that it was Impoſſible at that Rate that any man ſhould have Right done him. *Oates* was for the moſt part all along his Speech Impertinent and Saucy, ſo that my Lord threatned to turn him out of the Court, and after he had ſpent ſomething more than half an hours time he withdrew of himſelf, and went out of the Hall, with his Guards along with him, as he came towards the middle of the Hall, the People began to Shout, and ſo Shouted him quite out of the Hall.

After a little ſpace of Scilence, the Solicitor General began to ſum up the whole, and continued for three quarters of an hour, When he had done, my *Lord Chief Juſtice* began a moſt Eloquent and Emphatical Speech.

Amongſt other things, telling the Jury, that this was a Cauſe that the Honour of the whole Nation was concerned in, not to let a perſon ſo publickly infamous, eſcape Juſtice. That he was a perſon of an hardned impudence and Conſcience, and not worthy of the Name of the Church of *England* that he was Guilty of ſpilling Innocent Blood, and had ſpared no perſon though never ſo nearly related to the Crown: And after he had exactly and particularly Summed up all the Witneſſes on both

ſides:

ſides: He concluded with theſe Words, *That he was the blackeſt Villain upon the Face of the Earth.*

As this Prodigious Crimes do plainly manifeſt to every unprejudiced Perſon.

The Speech being ended, the Jury Withdrew, and after a certain ſpace of time returned again, and brought him Guilty of the Indictment.

And thus, this Famoſo who ſought to get an infamous Fame, by Inflaming theſe Kingdoms, like him that thought to Eterniſe his name, by Burning of the Temple of *Diana*, he is like to have a never Dying Name, in an Eternal Infamy.

FINIS.

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